



By unanimous agreement, the Somerset County Board of Education convened in an open work session at 5:00 p.m., and a closed session at 6:00 p.m. on October 18, 2011 to discuss personnel and legal matters as permitted by the Maryland Open Meetings Act, S10-508(a)(9) of the State Government Article. Present were Chairman Sumpter, Dr. Whittington, Mr. Wells, Ms. Green-Gale, Superintendent Dr. Marjorie Miles and Melissa Tilghman, recording secretary. Vice Chairman Miles was excused from the meeting due to illness.

The regular Board meeting began at 7:12 p.m. Present were Chairman Sumpter, Mr. Wells, Dr. Whittington, Ms. Green-Gale, Superintendent Dr. Marjorie Miles, and Melissa Tilghman, recording secretary.

OPEN WORK SESSION

The meeting was called to order. The Board members discussed Policy #600-21, Student Enrollment, Attendance Eligibility, Student Assignment. Dr. Miles explained the Tuition costs for out of county student transfers. Several Board members expressed concern about the county costs not being collected from out of county students and that Somerset's residents' tax dollars were paying to educate out of county students. The policy will be reviewed and will include that starting next year Somerset County Public Schools will charge a fee for out of county transfer students. Dr. Whittington added that current out of county students are exempt from the upcoming policy change. Chairman Sumpter has requested that community input was necessary on the proposed policy change.

It was the consensus of the opinion of the Board that tuition reimbursement for the grade of a "C" was mediocre and does not hold the teacher up to high standards. The Board agreed to table this item until after negotiations.

It was the consensus of the opinion of the Board to revise the Board meeting calendar and begin holding Board meetings at the designated school. Dr. Miles informed the Board that she has met with the community who expressed excitement in moving the meetings around to the schools.

Chairman Sumpter will announce the change of meetings to the schools. The Board hopes that this will increase parents' participation. Mr. Daugherty informed the Board that interviewing begins next week for the Driver/Trainer. The Driver/Trainer position will work 20 hours per week and that the trainer can be a bus contractor.

It was the consensus of the opinion of the Board that bus substitutes must have five years of hands-on driving experience before applying for a bus route contract. Chairman Sumpter also requested a copy of the Interview Tool and its alignment with the policy.

The Board discussed the bus contractors' required Workman's Compensation Insurance. Fulton Jeffers, Board Attorney, added that all of Wicomico County contractors have Workmen's

Compensation Insurance and that if Somerset County does not have a form signed, any incidence could require SCPS to assume responsibility.

It was the consensus of the opinion of the Board that a meeting be held with the bus contractors to review the bus contracts with the inclusion of the Sole Proprietor Form.

It was the consensus of the opinion of the Board to approve Dr. Miles request to inform Bill Williams and David Webster that they will be receiving their Qualified Teacher Incentive Stipend from 2008-2009 upon funding availability. MSDE will pay for 2009-2010.

A motion was called for by Mr. Wells, seconded by Ms. Green-Gale and approved to adjourn the open work session meeting at 6:08. p.m.

REGULAR SESSION AGENDA

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Sumpter at 7:12 p.m.

2. Roll Call

The roll was called by Melissa Tilghman indicating that four Board members and the Superintendent were present. Vice Chairman Miles was excused from the meeting due to illness.

3. Declaration of Quorum

It was declared that a quorum was present.

4. Pledge of Allegiance

Chairman Sumpter led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance.

5. Approval of Minutes

It was moved by Dr. Whittington, seconded by Mr. Wells and passed to approve the correction in the minutes of August 16, 2011 and the September 20, 2011.

6. Adoption of Agenda

It was moved by Mr. Wells, seconded by Dr. Whittington and passed to approve the amended agenda. The vote was unanimous.

7. Student Board Members' Activities Reports

The student board members presented their reports and were thanked by the Board members.

8. Public Participation

Dan Kuebler addressed the Board with his concerns regarding the closing of Crisfield Academy & High School. He stated that he along with other community members will protest this closing. Mr. Kuebler also addressed the Board with concerns that Woodson Elementary School and Crisfield Academy & High School have not been meeting AYP mandates. He expressed that the system needed change and that not enough is being done to improve system learning amongst students.

9. Old Business

A. Facilities and Transportation and

Change Order Requests

It was the consensus of opinion of the Board to remove Item 9A-1, Change Orders from the agenda.

B. Student Services

Policy #600-21, Student Enrollment

It was the consensus of the opinion of the Board to table Policy #600-21, Student Enrollment. The Board has decided that further discussion is needed on this policy.

C. Human Resources

Policy #700-26, Workers Compensation

It was the consensus of the opinion of the Board to table Policy #700-26, Tuition Reimbursement until further discussion is held.

Job Descriptions

It was moved by Mr. Wells, seconded by Dr. Whittington and passed to approve the following revised job descriptions: Bus Driver Trainer and Job Coach. The vote was unanimous.

10. New Business

A. Finance

Monthly Finance Report

Ms. Miller presented the Monthly Finance Report to the Board members. Chairman Sumpter thanked her for the information. Ms. Miller also informed the Board that the Audit is going well and everything is on target.

Monthly Food Service Report

Ms. Miller presented the Monthly Food Service Report to the Board members. The Board thanked her for the report.

B. Out of Student Transfer

It was moved by Dr. Whittington, seconded by Ms. Green-Gale and passed to approve the following student's school transfer request:

- Jasmine Marshall (WHS)

C. Human Resources

It was the consensus of the opinion of the Board that the Assistant Superintendent's revised job description be reviewed and studied for approval at the November Board

Human Resources Report

It was moved by Mr. Wells, seconded by Ms. Green-Gale and passed to approve Mr. Lawson's Human Resources Report. The vote was unanimous.

Out of State Travel

Mr. Lawson presented the Board with the Out of State Travel. Chairman Sumpter thanked him for the information.

11. Superintendent and Board Member Comments

Dr. Miles expressed that her goal is to lessen the achievement gap in Somerset County's Public Schools. Ms. Green-Gale encouraged the public to speak up and express to the Board their concerns. Mr. Wells asked that the community be patient and stated that system restructuring will take time. Dr. Whittington added that Board members will take the necessary steps to

rectify the current achievement gap and request support from the Crisfield community. Chairman Sumpter thanked Mr. Kuebler for expressing his concerns to the Board members and is encouraging community support at the upcoming town meetings.

12. **November 2011** – It was moved by Dr. Whittington, seconded by Ms. Green-Gale and passed to approve November 15, 2011 as the next open regular session. An open work session will be held at 5:00 p.m. to discuss facilities and other items, a closed session at 6:00 p.m. and an open regular session at 7:00 p.m. at the Deal Island Elementary School. The vote was unanimous.

13. Adjournment

It was moved by Dr. Whittington, seconded by Ms. Green-Gale and passed to adjourn the meeting at 7:45 p.m. The vote was unanimous.

Dr. Marjorie Miles, Superintendent

Recorded and Prepared by: Melissa Tilghman/Secretary